Voluntary agency for the Departments of Pension and Pensioners* Welfare (SCOVA)

2203. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of meetings of the Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies for the Department of Pens'on and Pensioners' Welfare reconstituted in February, 1988 has been held and what items were discussed and decisions taken; and

(b) what are the names of members of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Since the reconstitution of the SCOVA in February. 1988 three meetings have been held so "far. The important areas Which have figured in the discussions relate to fourth Central Pay Commission's recommendations on pension matters, medicare for pensioners, Pension Adalat, pension payment procedure, **etc.** The points made in these meetings are taken note of and action wherever required is taken.

(b) The names of members of the SCOVA are as under:

1. Shri S. S. Ramachandran,
   Secretary General,
   All India Central Committes of Pensioners' Associations. New Delhi.
2. Shri Ripudaman Singh,
   President,
   Bharat Pensioners' Samaj, New Delhi.
3. Srri B. S. Vaze,
   General Secretary,
   All India P and T and other Central Government Pensioners' Associations, Pune.
4. Shri M. K. Deena Dayalan,
   President,
   Ali India Federation of Pensioners' Associations, Madras.
5. Shri B. P. Dube,
   President,
   All India Organisation of Pensioners, Jabalpur.
6. Shri N. Prasad,
   General Secretary,
   Federation of Central Govern ment Pensioners' Organisations, Calcutta.
7. Brig. Ram Singh (Retd),
   President,
   Indian Ex-Services League, New Delhi.
8. Shri Surjit Singh,
   General Secretary,
   National Ex-servicemen Co-ordination Committee, New Delhi.
9. Air Vice Marshal N. Srinivasa-gopalan (Retd),
   Member, Kendriya Sainik Board, Secunderabad.
10. Shri B. S. Devasundaram, President,
    National Federation of Railway Pensioners, Palghat.
11. Shri M. S. Hinghe, General Secretary,
    AU India Retired Railwaymen's Federation, Bhusaval.

सिविल सेवा परीक्षा में संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के अनिवार्य अंग्रेजी प्रश्न-पत्र के विरुद्ध विद्यार्थी संगठनों द्वारा आन्दोलन

2204. **श्री सोहन लाल धूसिया :**
श्री राम चन्द्र विकल :

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न विद्यार्थी "संगठनों" और युवा "संगठनों" ने, उस शर्त को हटाने की मांग करते हुए जिसके अधीन आयोग द्वारा आयोजित सिविल सेवा

परीक्षाओं के लिए अंग्रेजी का प्रश्न पत्र अनिवार्य है, संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के मुख्यालय के सामने कितने दिनों तक आन्दोलन जारी रखा; और

(ख) सरकार ने किन कारणों से जनता की इस मांग को नहीं माना ?

कार्मिक लोक, शिकायत और पैन्शन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. चिदम्बरम्) : (क) आयोग के परिसर के बाहर लोगों का एक वर्ग सिविल सेवा परीक्षा की योजना अनिवार्य अंग्रेजी प्रश्न पत्र को हटाने की मांग को लेकर कथित रूप से 16 अगस्त, 1988 से "धरना" दिए हुए है।

(ख) कोठारी समिति, जिसने सिविल सेवा परीक्षा योजना की पुनरीक्षा की थी, ने सिफारिश की थी कि उम्मीदवारों को अंग्रेजी तथा संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल भारतीय भाषाओं में से किसी एक भाषा का पर्याप्त ज्ञान होना चाहिए। तदनुसार, वर्ष 1979 से सिविल सेवा परीक्षा में अंग्रेजी तथा भारतीय भाषाओं में से किसी एक भाषा का एक-एक अनिवार्य प्रश्न-पत्र होता है जो कि अर्हक स्वरूप का तथा मैट्रिक स्तर का होता है।

Rules Governing SCOVA

2205. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 2790 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th August, 1988 and state:

rules and regulations that gov a the constitution, status functioning and conduct of meetings of SCOVA;

(tO the total number of meetings of SCOVA held so far since constitution to date, details of the problems pertaining to civilian and defence pensioners/family pensioners presented by the representatives of the pensioners organisations in these meetings, and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) whether the issues like "Parity in Pensions" and "Travel concessions' to pensioners/family pensioners are persistently brought before the SCOVA at each of its meetings by the representatives of pensioners organisations and if so, the details thereof?

THE MMISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBAR-RAM): (a) to (c) A Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies for the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare was constituted on July 31, 1986 with a view to promoting the following objectives:

(i) To provide a feedback on programme implementation of the Department,

(ii) To discuss and critically examine new policy initiatives, and

(iii) To mobilise voluntary effort to supplement the Government action.

The members of the Committee are selected from the well-known and active organisations of the pensioners representing various interests like Railway pensioners, Ex-Servicemen, etc.

The term of office of the members is for a period of one year.

The SCOVA holds its meetings as often as necessary. The members are entitled to travelling allowance and daily allowance for attending the meeting of the Committee in accordance with the provisions of SR 190 and orders of the Government of India as issued from time to time.

Since the constitution of the SCOVA on 31-7-88 the Committee has met six times. The important areas which have figured in the discussions relate to Fourth Central Pay Commission's recommendations on pension matters, medicare for pensioners, Pension Adalat, pension payment procedure, etc. The points made in thfese-meetings are taken note of an actior. wherever required is taken.